



**Parks  
& Recreation**  
*Enriching People's Lives*


# Tree Ordinance Seminar for Contractors and Property Managers

David Gebhard Public Meeting Room  
November 16 & 18, 2010



# Seminar Overview

- The purpose of this training is to provide you with the information you need to do business while understanding the requirements of the City of Santa Barbara Municipal Code.



# Benefits to you and your clients

- Applied for 2 hours ISA CEU's
- Those who complete the training will be placed on a list.
- You will be able to guide your customers to healthier trees that live longer.
- The product will benefit the whole community



# Updates to Municipal Code Tree Regulations

- Santa Barbara Municipal Code Title 15 and 22 were amended to clarify regulations regarding the removal or significant alterations of trees.
- In order to remove or prune beyond the set limits for regulated trees, you must get permission from the appropriate City Department or review body



# Tree Regulations continued...

<b>If the tree is located:</b>	<b>You must contact:</b>
In the parkway, tree well, road ROW or required setback, (except EPV & BLD)	Parks and Recreation Dept.
On private property within El Pueblo Viejo (EPV) or Brinkerhoff Landmark Districts (BLD)	Community Development Dept. for Historic Landmarks Commission
In a parking lot	Community Development Dept. for Architectural Board of Review or Historic Landmarks Commission
On an Approved Landscape Plan Multi-family commercial or industrial use only	Community Development Dept. for Architectural Board of Review or Historic Landmarks Commission





# El Pueblo Viejo Landmark District

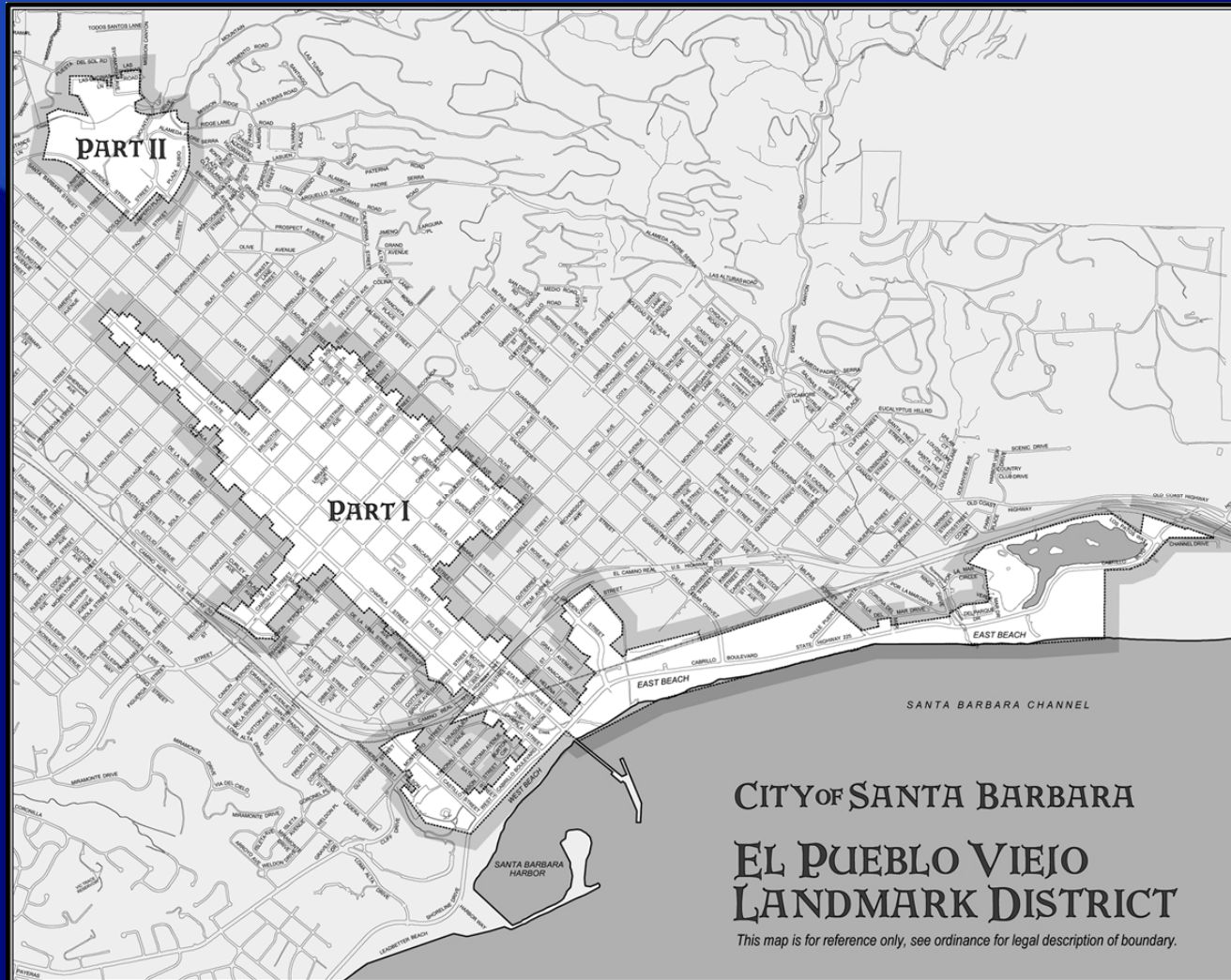
## ■ Part I

- Mission St. to Beach
- Laguna to Chapala
- Along the Beach
  - Castillo to Hot Springs
  - Freeway to beach

## ■ Part II

- Santa Barbara Mission and surrounding area

# El Pueblo Viejo Landmark District





# Brinkerhoff Landmark District

- Brinkerhoff Avenue between W. Cota Street and W. Haley Street





# List of Contacts

- Title 15
  - Parks and Recreation - 564-5433
- Title 22
  - Public Zoning counter for general questions-
    - 564-5578
  - Architectural Board of Review- Tony Boughman
    - 564-5470 x4539
  - Historic Landmark Commission- Susan Gantz
    - 564-5470 x3311
  - Single Family Design Board- Michelle Bedard
    - 564-5470 x4551



# Tree Violations within the City of Santa Barbara

- City Council established significant administrative fines for tree violations.

# Administrative Fines for Pruning or Removal Violations

<b>Action without, or in violation of, a permit</b>	<b>Trunk Diameter from 4" up to 12"</b>	<b>Trunk Diameter over 12" and up to 24"</b>	<b>Trunk Diameter over 24"</b>
<b>Pruning Offense</b>	Up to \$500	Up to \$1,000	Up to \$1,000
<b>Tree Removal</b>	Up to \$1,000	Up to \$3,000	Up to \$5,000



# Definitions

- **SIGNIFICANTLY ALTER A TREE.**
  - To prune a tree in such a way that either (i) its natural character is significantly altered, or (ii) the height and/or spread of the tree crown is reduced by more than one-quarter within any 12-month period.



# Definitions continued

- REMOVE A TREE.
  - To cut a tree down or to otherwise remove a tree from its location by any means.



# Tree Deemed a Violation



# Tree Deemed Not a Violation







# Municipal Codes Regarding the Maintenance of Trees and Plants

- Chapter 8.04.020 - Fire Code Vegetation Management and Defensible Space Requirement
- Chapter 8.20 - Vegetation Obstructing Public Places



# Municipal Codes Regarding the Maintenance of Trees and Plants

- Chapter 9.16.020 - Restriction of Use of Non-Gas Powered Leaf Blowers
- Chapter 9.16.21 - Prohibition of Use of Gas Leaf Blowers



# Municipal Codes Regarding the Maintenance of Trees and Plants

- Chapter 15.20- Tree Planting and Maintenance
- Chapter 15.24- Preservation of Trees
  - Setback Trees (except EPV and BLD)
  - Historic and Specimen trees





# 15.20.110 Permit Required

- **Planting, Maintaining, or Removing any Tree Growing Within a Street Right-of-Way or Public Area.**



## 15.24.020 Prohibition

- Remove or significantly alter a tree or to authorize or allow the removal or significant alteration without a permit:
  - A setback tree,
  - A parking lot tree,
  - A tree on an approved plan, or
  - A tree designated as an historic or specimen tree by the City Council.



# 15.24.030 Lawful Removal of Trees

## ■ **Without a Permit if:**

- The tree is dead
- The tree is so weakened by age, disease, storm, fire, or any injury so as to cause imminent danger to persons or property
- The tree is diseased, and the tree's condition is a source of present danger to healthy trees



## 15.24.030 Lawful Removal of Trees cont.

- The main trunk of the tree is less than four inches (4") in diameter (DBH)
- The Fire Department has ordered the tree removed



# 15.24.035 Lawful Significant Alteration of Trees

- **Without a Permit if:**

- The tree poses a potential danger to persons or property
  - A written report prepared by a member of the American Society of Consulting Arborists or an arborist certified by the International Society of Arboriculture
  - An authorized employee of the City Parks and Recreation Department assesses the condition of the tree and approves the proposed work
- The City Fire Department has ordered the pruning of the tree





# Setback Tree

- A tree located in the front of a property within the distance set by the property zoning.
  - IF more than 50% of the tree trunk, measured at the highest natural grade adjacent to the trunk, is within the front setback.



# Historic Trees

- Moreton Bay Fig Tree (*Ficus macrophylla*) — Corner of Chapala St. at Montecito St.
- City Hall Pepper (*Schinus molle*)—De La Guerra Plaza entrance to City Hall
- Cota Sycamores (*Platanus racemosa*)—near Mission SB-at Los Olivos St. & APS
- Doremus Stone Pines (*Pinus pinea*)—300-800 Blocks E. Anapamu St.



# Historic Trees continued

- “Fernald Eucalyptus” (*Eucalyptus citriodora*)—400 Blk. Santa Barbara St. (Smart & Final entrance)
- Franceschi Flame Tree (*Brachychiton acerifolium* x *populneum*) City Parking Lot 12
- “Tree of Light” (*Araucaria heterophylla*) — 100 W. Carrillo St. (NW corner of Chapala St. at Carrillo St - Ralphs Market)



# Specimen Trees

- American Elm (*Ulmus americana*)—1210 Carpinteria St., near property line (PL)
- Two Australian Fan Palms (*Livistona australis*) -131 E. Anapamu St., front setback
- Indian Laurel Fig (*Ficus microcarpa* var.*nitida*) – 100 E. Constance Ave. (SE corner Constance at Anacapa St.)



# Municipal Codes Regarding the Maintenance of Trees and Plants

- Chapter 22.10- Vegetation Removal
- Chapter 22.11- Maintenance of Approved Landscape Plans
- Chapter 22.22 – Historic Structures



# Municipal Codes Regarding the Maintenance of Trees and Plants

- Chapter 22.68 - Architectural Board of Review
- Chapter 22.69 - Single Family Design Board





# Municipal Codes Regarding the Maintenance of Trees and Plants

- Chapter 22.76 - View Dispute Resolution Process
  - Does not apply to trees covered by Title 15
    - A City owned tree
    - A setback tree,
    - A parking lot tree,
    - A tree on an approved plan, or
    - A tree designated as an historic or specimen tree by the City Council.



# Municipal Codes Regarding the Maintenance of Trees and Plants

- Section 28.87.170 - Fences, Walls, Screens, and Hedges
- Section 28.87.200 - Landscape or Planting Plan Approvals-Standards
- Section 28.90.050 - Landscaping and Lighting (Parking Lot Standards)

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- Tree Care Cards provided by Santa Barbara UCCE Master Gardeners Program: Extra copies can be obtained by emailing [mgsantab@ucdavis.edu](mailto:mgsantab@ucdavis.edu)
- The Municipal Code can be found at:  
[http://www.santabarbaraca.gov/Government/City\\_Hall/Municode](http://www.santabarbaraca.gov/Government/City_Hall/Municode)



# Questions?

# Thank you